Mr. Balazs- American Studies 2 Reconstruction Assignment (due date Thursday 2/2)

Complete the readings and follow up on the additional items included in your area to research. Again, we’ll have two person groups and brief non-Powerpoint presentations. Groups will once again, provide a one page (2 sided) outline. Please do not make the outline a long narrative. Please do not simply answer the questions I provide below in your outline. The questions should be resolved but integrate them w/the outline to give a “big picture” rather than simply a Q and A.

The outline should be broken down in sections double spaced and easy to follow. You do not need to use full sentences. Presentations should add to the outline and not repeat them. Organize material based on central ideas.

On the back page, include a **brief** excerpt from the reading, **paraphrase it**, **explain why you chose it** Create two multiple choice questions. One concrete (factual), one requiring some higher level thinking (making an inference, analyzing and assessing information). Include a works cited (Use and cite your textbook, try not to use the history channel etc…but stronger academic cites- make sure they are valid cites)

Try to work with someone you’ve never worked with before. You’ll receive two class sessions to work on this.

Projects:

1. Sherman’s field order 15 separate doc handout- Who was Sherman and what was he doing in Savannah Ga. In January 1865. What gives him the right to make the Orders herein? Relate the orders to the class. Which orders did you find most surprising? Which made most sense? What seemed unnecessary or weak?

2. Full pardon 850- Who was Andrew Johnson? How did he rise to the position of VP? How did the “Pardon” mirror his concerns about Reconstruction? How might have Johnson’s background have affected his decisions to treat the CSA soldiers as he does?

3.Education p842- What was the Freedman’s Bureau? When and where was it established? What was it’s purpose? Discuss the reading itself, what surprised you the most? What was most troublesome? After completing the reading what

4. 1866 First reconstruction p.843-844, Who were the Radical Republicans and how did they change the path that President Johnson had set? What are “Carpet Baggers” and why is that considered a derisive term? What were the “new” ideas of the First Reconstruction Acts? What happened to President Johnson? Assess the new Act, what do you think was best? Worst?

5. 14th and 15th Amendment- How did the 14th and 15th Amendment resolve the outstanding problems that existed after the Civil War? Why would it have been impossible to pass the Amendments before the War (review how an Amendment is enacted)? Explain and impact of the various sections of each. Don’t use the language of the Amendment to explain but try to give real life examples of a situation that would involve each section.

6 End of White Man’s Government p.846-847. What is an “editorial”? How is that different than other sections of a newspaper? What is an “oligarchy” and what does the writer mean by the term oligarchy (he uses it twice) ? Why is it a negative term? How does the editorial assess the ruling government before the First Reconstruction Act? What did you find most disheartening about the prior government? How did life change with the new government?

7 Ku klux klan p. 851-854. When, why, where and how did the KKK form. Who started the group? What was their goal and how did they go about reaching it? Who is relating the information about the Klan? Assess their credibility? What did you find most interesting? Most disconcerting? Which examples of Klan atrocities seemed least concerning and which most? How was the Klan able to commit their acts and remain free? - LIMIT THE DISCUSSION TO THE 19TH CENTURY!

8. We had only our ignorance (reflection written in 1904) p855-858, Look up what were the Civil Rights Acts of the 1870s and what happened to them? Why didn’t they protect the narrator in this example? Assess the credibility of the narrator (note piece is a reflection). After reading the narrative what were your impressions? What did you find most interesting? Most disconcerting? How would you overall assess the situation. In addition look up the term Jim Crow Laws and relate how they applied to this situation.

9. Black parliament 1874 p848-851. Who’s wrote the article? Assess his credibility and bias? How does he describe the people, events and actions of the legislative body? What words did you find difficult in the passage and what do they mean? What appears to be the writer’s opinion of the individuals and the body itself? Research what ultimately happened to the black legislatures.

10. Ida Wells separate doc. Who was Ida Well? Assess her credibility and bias? Does it make a difference that this is written 30 years after the Civil War ends, if so how? What does Well’s argue in her article? What did you find the most convincing? What did you find least convincing? What’s the irony in her point about Congressional representation after the 3/5th clause ended? What happened on the Tennessee Railroad that concerned her? Research what was the case Plessy v. Ferguson

11 Louisiana Black Codes and Mial Legal Contract. What were the issues presented by the two documents. What was the nature of the agreement between the laborer in Mial’s case and the owner? What did you find most interesting about the contract? Most disconcerting? How would you assess the contract? Look up the term Sharecropper and explain how it applies to this situation. What is the nature of the Louisiana Black Code? Most interesting? Most disconcerting? In light of both is it fair to argue that life pre-1861 was not that different than life during this contract for southern Blacks?